EXHIBITS ON THE STAGE THEY HANGE FROM CLAW-HAMMER GUS TO GEORG ENGELS.

A Parrot Takes a Speaking Part in a Piny

A Man who Brives and Braws Natio
with His Teeth - An Educated Bull at the Circus - Engels in a New Comedy,

The students of the Empire Theatre Dramatic school appeared at that house yesterday afternoon in three one-act plays that had not before been presented. Before the performance began Nelson Wheateroft came in front of the curtain to explain that the pieces were trifling specimens of character study, rather than plays conaming dramatic strength. For one of the actors, a parrot, he offered an apology. The bird had been in the school only since 11 o'clock in the forenoon, it was explained, and he might say more or he might say less than was expected of him. The sketch in which he was engaged was "Twiggs and Tudens," and was idapted from James Whitcomb Riley by Annie Josephine Levy. The parrot held the centre of the stage, and a bright cage held him. Just how many lines the authoress had accorded to him it was impossible to say, Once in the early moments of the piece, while an old man was soliloquizing pabetteally, there came from the cage an echo of words that he himself repeated; but, again, his ost essential lines were interrupted by the "Pretty Poll" and "Polly wants a racker." Later it seemed a severe test for players of slight experience to be interrupted hile doing their best with some feeling passage by a melodious whistle from their green and yellow companion. Then there were times when t seemed as if they sought to stir the bird to words of "business" and failed of any result. But as the curtain fell there came from the parrot's direction in strider tones the words, Poor old Twiggs," and it was clear the bird "Poor old Twiggs," and it was clear the bird was distinguished from his companions by having an understudy. There was very little that was dramatic in this sketch, and its best opportunity fell to the depicter of an old man.

Another of the plays was "A Sudden Shower," by Limisey Harris, and it placed a woman on an artist's model throne, and had the artist to whom she was sitting pretent to her flance that she was a lay figure. This deceit was successionally although the man at one moment was

artist's model throne, and had the artist to whom she was sitting pretend to her flance that she was a lay figure. This deceit was successful, and although the man at one moment was startied by his doubts, he did not step nearer to prove them. "The Dummy," a farce, was reserved for the last. Its characters were two elderly spinsters, one stern and dominant, the other completely under the stronger woman's thumb; a young new woman who boxed, voted whist show, and who at intervals in her plotting mischief practised at, proposing to the man with whom she was smitten; an old fellow whose thirty years of courting one woman had not brought a proposal when the play opened, and two minor personages. In the end the gentle spinster paired with the old fellow, the new woman maid was cheated of a chance of proposing by being proposed to, and the stern spinster was left, as she was discovered in the beginning, playing at solitaire with cards, and accding a jack of hearts to complete her game. This was the best of the three pieces, and it also gave the most favorable opportunities to its participants. The new woman and the subdued old one were handled with considerable cleverness.

There's no marble bust of Claw-hammer Gus in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, but there's a niche for him in Fame's dime rotunda nevertheless. He has a place on the stage at Huber's Museum in Fourteenth street. The niche, the platform, and his professional name depend upon his ingenious method of employing his nuscular jaws. First he puts an ordinary nail between his teeth and holds it with the point outward. Taking a board a quarter of an inch thick he impales it upon the nail, and presses on the board till the nail is driven home. Then, with the nail still between his teeth, he withdraws it from the board. This edifying operation is repeated with two and with three thicknesses of the board. But the final trick is the specialist's supreme effort. He drives a spike into a three-inch plank, using a hammer to prove that there is no deception about it. Then, with a grace that entirely outdoes the winner of the recent ple-cating contest at this resort, he gets his teeth over the spike, closes them upon it with a sweet, sad smile and begins to pull, holding the board with his hands. Eventually the spike is withdrawn, and it is so plain in the beginning that it will come out that the climax is not so thrilling as it might be if only some bope was held out that the nail would act like an ordinary carpet tack—the sort that when driven into a floor half an inch in September will be rusted in twice as deep by spring's housecleaning. But it's a stirring deed, and at the end of yesterday's performance a delinquent boarder was seen to approach the specialist and seek his advice about the overmastering of what are known in boarding-house circles as "slow-pay steaks." thick he impales it upon the pail, and presses

After viewing ostriches, pink-faced baboons an ordinary bull in the Barnum & Balley menagerie. He is not as meek looking as the Kerry cow that chews her cud while gazing contentedly at caged neighbors that could pleasprably chew her, but he is a barnyard type opposed in the display to others that are untamable. There's a ring through his nose that hints of a call for restraint, and the forehead of the historical cow with the crumpled horn could not have been equipped in a more businesslike manner. Then, since history is slient concerning that worthy creature's size, it can be believed that this buil silent concerning that worthy creature's size, it can be believed that this buil is twice as large as she was. Yet in the ring his behavior is peaceful; indeed it at times takes on a semblance to long suffering meekness. Led by the nose, hetrots into the centering and begins to go around it at a good pace. His strides are not characterized by the neatness of movement that marks aring horse, but he gets over his unending path at a good speed, and his gait is not slackened when his trainer mounts him, and in displaying his own accompishments beats a tattoo over what butchers call choice ribs. When the trainer again dismounts the beast kneels, first on one knee and then on the other, and at command lies down flat upon his side. While thus placed the trainer sits and steps upon the prostrate face, and offers various other indignities to prove that his charge is an extraordinary animal. When the ringmaster's whistle announces that the inning of those then engaged in the rings and on the platforms is over, the buil takes his cue without hesitancy. He trots out toward the door to the green room with a cheerful demeanor that recalls the old-time couplet, "How pleasant is Saturday night, When I've tried all the week to be good." But it may be that his bovine spirit is not sitrred by the plaudits of the multitude so much as by thoughts of food that awaits him. As to the plaudits, he can tell about as well as the human performers just how much of it is his own individual meed.

The farce which last night presented Georg Engels in the fourth rôle he has played at the Irving Place Theatre was "Rosenkranz and Gueldenstern," a piece which in various particu-lars gave unmistakable evidence of its fifteen or more years of use. The young men masquerading under these Shakesperean names were a youth and his guardian travelling in Switzer and to enlarge the experience of the young man before he made the marriage his father had planned for him. Of course, on that tour he met his destined wife, and as much a matter of course was the fact that he fell in love not with her, but another woman, and his guardian be-came the husband of the girl he was expected to marry. Much of the humor of the play came from the fact that the two men were mistaken for actors by their fellow guests in a Swiss hotel. The piece was neat and deft in its old-fashioned way, with the usual dependence on soliloquy and side speeches. That it amused the audience, however, came chiefly from its admirable per-formance by Herr Engels and the actors of the

however, came chiefly from its admirable performance by iterr Engels and the actors of the
company.

The part which the visiting actor played was
that of an old Saxon, and it was farcical
throughout and actes with a Saxon dialect; it
seemed more like a transfer from life than it
would otherwise have been. It was incidental and bore no important share in the
play, but Herr Engels was truly comical
in manner ark appearance. He is not a
great actor, and nothing that he has
done here entities him to that recognition, but
hi is a remarkably facile and natural interpreter of character roles. His own humor is
abundant, and every one of his parts is
distinctly individualized. His facial expression, as well as his generally natural
and free from exaggeration. An audience responds quickly to his aympathetic art, and last
night, as on his previous appearances, the actor
was continually applauded and enjoyed. The
decreasing influence of the atmosphere was in
measure ameliorated by the management,
which distributed palm-leaf fans and fee cream,
and these contributed to the success of the
evening.

Gen. Harrison to Preside at a College Oratorical Contest.

CHICAGO, April 16. - Ex-President Harrison has consented to preside at the college students' contest of the Northern Oratorical League, which is to be held at the Auditorium on May 1. The colleges to be represented are the University of Chicago, the universities of love, Michigan, and Wisconsin, Oberlin College, and North-scenters. The judges will be J. J. Griffiths of Indians. Ex-Senator John J. Ingalis. Prof. B. S. Murray, Desin of Princeton: Rev. Dr. Titsorth D. Swain, and Dr. Washington Gladdes. MRS. KENNEY'S 101 YEARS.

She Died as She Promised to When Sent Back to Mer Old Home, HOLDER, Me., April 16.—The Selectmen of Orrington, who, as Overreers of the Poor for that own, attended the funeral of Mrs. Lucretia Smith Kenney last Sunday, spent considerabl time during the services in figuring out how much their town would have saved if Board of Selectmen had granted her request and allowed her to die ten years ago. If Mrs. Kenney had lived until October of this year she

would have been 102 years old. Though she was reared in comfortable circumstances and married well, the last fifteen years of her life were passed as a pauper, suported by Orrington. In her early days Mrs. Kenney was a glantess. She was nearly six feet tall, weighed 200 pounds, and had a record of having whipped three men, killed one bear with a sled stake, and made more enemies in her century of life than most women would care to gain. Owning a good farm here in Holden and another in Orrington, she wasted both in lawsuits and called upon the town for support. When the Overseers of the Poor called to investigate her case fifteen years ago they found her suffering from a recent stroke of paralysis, which made her unable to move "I suppose you want me to die right away," said she, when they had learned that her prop-

They told her that, while they should hesitate to express their feelings so bluntly, she had grasped the sentiments of the meeting in a busi-

They told her that, while they should heesitate to express their feelings so blustly, she had grasped the sentiments of the meeting in a businealike way.

"Well," she resumed, "If you want me to die in five years or less send in back to the old piace in Holden. If you keep me here I'll live forever, just to spite you."

Notwithstanding the threat, they boarded her in Orrington, where she improved so rapidly that in two years she had been in three fights and was able to walk about. As her health and temper increased fewer people wanted to board her, until at the end of six years nobody would take her short of \$8 a week, with medical attendance extra. Again she sent for the Overseers of the Poor and renewed her offer to die in five years if they would send her to the old place in Holden, and repeated her threat to live forever in case they refused. They laughed in her face, and, finding a new boarding place, told her to take her time about dying. The next four years were full of sorrow for Orrington. The aged pauper broke heads and crockery in every house where she was taken. They tried to send her to an asylum for the insane, but the Justice who examined her pronounced it a case of ugliness and turned her back on the town. Bills of extra cost came in, and trouble mounted up until April 11, 1891, when the Overseers gave in completely and got board for her with Mrs. Ring on the old place in Holden. As soon as she entered the parior where she came as a bride seventy years before she looked around and said:

"There, I'm comfortable now, and in five years from to-day I'll die."

Things went on swimmingly after this. In summers she walked out among the apple trees singing the songs of her youth, and in winters she rode for miles in a sleigh to look over the places she had known, A year ago a second stroke of paralysis made it difficult for her to walk, but she was still as hearty ac usual, until the middle of March of this year. Then she rejused to sea. A doctor was called and said she had no trouble except old age, a

GAVE THEM " PASSES" FOR TICKETS How Shopkeepers Who Displayed Ctreus Posters Were Swindled.

A man calling himself Thomas Balley, who refused to give his address, was held in \$500 for trial in the Yorkville Police Court yesterday on charge of swindling a hundred or more storekeepers. Bailes made it a practice of following in the wake of the men in charge of the adver-tising for Barnum & Bailey's Greatest Show On Earth. It is the custom of the advertisers to put their posters in store windows, giving to the proprietors in return one or more tickets for the circus. Five minutes after the bona-fide cir-cus man had gone, Bailey would enter a store and request the proprietor to show him the

tickets.

"There has been a mistake," he would say.
"I represent the management of the circus, and have been ordered to replace these tickets, which have been called in, by a pass which will be recognized by the ticket taker."

Then he would hastily write "Pass one," or "two," as the case might be, on a blank card, and adding a signature would hand it to the

"two," as the case might be on a blank card, and adding a signature would hand it to the unsuspecting owner of the tickets in exchange for those left by the agent of the circus. During the past week he obtained over 100 tickets, which he sold for twenty-five or fifty cents each. The swindling game was discovered when, on Tuesday night, a score or more of Balley's victims presented the alleged passes for admittance at Madison Square Garden. When it was learned that the passes were no good, some of the holders made a rumpus, saying that they were entitled to see the circus because they had advertised it in their store windows. Admittance was refused them, however, and they were warned to beware of bogus circus men in the future. The case was reported at Police Headquarters, and on Wednesday afternoon Balley was arrested while trying to work a butcher on Third avenue.

FLECHTER AND THE STRAD.

Story of the Musical Instrument Dealer's Arrest-Strad Shown in Court.

On the trial of Victor S. Flechter, musical instrument dealer, for having in his possession the stolen Bett Stradivarius violin, Edward J. Baird, a Pinkerton detective, told yesterday in he General Sessions the story of the device by which Flechter was induced to bring the violin, to show it to a customer, to the house of Assistant District Attorney Allen at 22 Gramercy Park, where Mrs. Bott was fin waiting to identify it. Baird represented himself as the agent of a rich Westerner who wanted to buy a genuine Strad. Flechter was arrested as he genuine Strad. Frechter was arrested as he left the house.

Baird said that there was a crack in the belly of the violin large enough to admit the point of

of the violin large enough to admit the point of a toothpick.

Lawyer Palmer for the defence here opened a case supposed to contain the Stradivarius in question, and lifted a violin out of a red slik bag. He brought it up to the witness and asked if it was the same violin. Mr. Osborne objected on the ground that the witness was not an expert, and the violin was carefully laid back in the case. The defence say that there is no crack in the Fiechter violin and that it is perfectly sound. It will be not in swidence later.

The witness stated at the outset of his cross-examination that he had never lied,

"When you told Mr. Fiechter that you represented a rich Westerner looking for a Stradivarius did you not tell a lie?" asked Mr. Palmer.

"I regarded that as business then,"

"Just a detective lie, ch?"

The trial will continue to-day.

FIRST BATH IN EIGHT MONTHS

A Bussian Ragpicker Arrested for Scrub bing Himself on the River Front. The warm weather induced John Beno, a

Russian ragpicker, on Wednesday to take the first bath he had had in eight months. Since early last fall Beno has lived in a descried beer tunnel near the foot of East Seventieth street. About 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon Policeman Callahan saw a crowd along the river front at the foot of East Seventy-first street.

front at the foot of East Seventy-first street. On the shore stood Heno, stripped to the skin, industriously scrubbing himself with a dilapidated scrubbing brush. Three pairs of socks, two shirts, two pairs of trousers and as many coats lay in a heap at his feet.

Nearly 200 persons encouraged the ragpicker's scrubbing. When ordered by the policeman to put on his clothes Heno crawled slowly into his wardrobe, carefully placing the scrubbing brush in one of the cost occasts. When he had dressed he followed the policeman to the station house.

Magistrate Brann said he didn't object to the prisoner taking a bath, but added that the river front wasn't the place provided for that purpose. Then he committed the raspicker to five days in the workhouse.

A Tank of Varuish Exploded.

Sr. Louis, April 16. Four firemen, one of them an Assistant Chief, were burned last them an Assistant Colef, were burned last night by the explosion of a tank of varnish at the F. H. Legeman Chair Manufacturing Com-pany's plant. None of the men was fatally hurs.

Assistant Chief Barry received burns on the left side of the face. The most seriously burn was William Gleason, the former baseball player. He was severely burned about the head and hands. SHE WRECKED THE HOUSE.

HOME-COMING WELCOME OF PRES-IDENT ROBINSON AND FAMILY.

The Chief of the Mexican Central Hattron Went Away on a Long Trip, Leaving Mrs. Wellman in Charge of the House -The Rain He Found on His Return.

TOPERA, Kan., April 16. Several weeks ago President A. A. Robinson of the Mexican Central Railroad started on a long trip through the Southwest, taking his wife and family with him. No: wishing to leave their house, which was one of the handsomest in the city, to the care of the servants alone, Mr. and Mrs. Rob-incon invited Mrs. Ida Wellman, a friend of many years' standing, to occupy it during their absence. Mrs. Wellman promptly accepted the invitation.

"And you are to feel perfectly free in it, Ida," said Mrs. Robinson, as she bade the vice-mistress of the mansion good-by. "If you want to entertain, by all means do so. Everything here is at your disposal. You are to act just as if the house were your own."

This is exactly what Mrs, Wellman did, with

the result that the Robinson house is now probably one of the most extraordinary dwelling places in the country. Very shortly after the departure of the owners, Mrs. Wellman began to develop ideas of her own hitherto latent, First she turned her attention to the parlor, which was carpeted with a very handsome car-pet of floral design. This failed to coincide with her idea of the fitness of things. She went down town for two carpet men. To them she proceeded to expound her theories.

"Flowers were never meant to be trodden They should not be put in a carpet. Being there, we have two remedies. Either we can cut the flowers out and give them a chance to grow, or take the carpet up and fix it where won't be trodden under foot. Go to work." But the carpet men didn't like the job, and they said so. In great wrath Mrs. Wellman dismissed them and sent for three carpenters, who, under her supervision, took up the flowerstrewn carpet and nailed it firmly to the cell-

"Where," said Mrs. Wellman, triumphantly, "I don't think anybody will tread on it, unless the human fly comes around this way " In the big Robinson library hang the Robinson ancestors done in oils, a half dozen of them. To these Mrs. Wellman next turned her attention. Reform was necessary, and she was just the woman to bring it about. She sent for a frame maker and an impecunious painter of signs, and set to work to bring those ancestors up to the mark. "Now there's the great-great-grandfather,"

said she to the framer. "From all I hear of him he was a piratical old scalawag. He ought to have been behind the bars. Maybe

him he was a piratical old scalawag. He ought to have been behind the bars. Maybe he was for all I know. Any way, we'll put him there now. I want a strong iron grating rade to cover the whole front of the picture." It was done as ordered.

"And old Andrew Robinson," she continued, turning to the painter. "Just look what that fool of an artist has made of him. I want that nose painted the reddert red you've got in your box."

So the ancient Andrew was decorated with a proboscis that fairly threw a gleam over the rest of the portraits. Another ancestor appealed to the censor as possessing potentialities of beauty if he were shaven, so his beautiful Van Ilyke beard disappeared under a bloof paint. Still another didn't appeal to her at all, and a few broad splashes of black relegated him to an obscurity denser than antiquity itself. Not one of the lot escaped free. Here it was an eyebrow, there a lock of hair, that had to be changed. The progenitors of the Robinson family looked like a collection of tea-store chromos when Mrs. Wellman got through with them.

While this was going on nobody outside knew anything about it, but soon after there was a public scandal. It arose from Mrs. Wellman's scheme for morning bathing. At her orders the guest chamber was fitted out with a hanging bath tub awing over the bed which could be filled and overturned by a mechanical device operated from without, the dies being to give the sleeper the morning ablutions before rising. When it was all fixed she filled the tub and invited an ancient maiden lady was conducted to the chamber. At 7 o'clock on the following morning the ancient maiden lady looking like Aphrodite new risen from the sea, rushed forth from the Robinson mansion, proclaiming in a loud voice that Mrs. Wellman had attempted to murder her. That barely escaped being a police case.

Nor was the damage to the visitor all. Very earliestly the designer of the matutinal bath

lice case.

Nor was the damage to the visitor all. Very carelessiy the designer of the matutinal bath had neglected to provide for the drainage of the water. It leaked through upon 'he parlor ceiling carpet, sagged that down, and finally caused its fall, smashing all the brica-brac in the room. Cleanliness was her next fad. She soaked all the Oriental rugs and curtains in boiling water, with amazing results of shrinkage to the designs. She washed the piano inside and out, which didn't decrease its usefulness as an ornament, but seriously affected its tone and tune. She arranged for a streamlet of running water to 'pur', as she poetically called it, from the kitchen faucets through the dining room in a zinc-lined trough, and empty in the garden label have my watercress and ducks fresh from the brook." said she.

When the waterworks man came up to complain of the water works man came up to complain of the water works man came up to complain of the water works man started in upon the servants. The cook she ordered to wear bloomers and the second girl was to take bloycie lessons, so that she could wait on table on the water works had started in upon the servants. The cook she ordered to wear bloomers and the second girl was to take bloycie lessons, so that she could wait on table on the wheel. When they gave notice, she promptly raised their waxes \$5 a month each, and promised to forego her ideas about bloomers and bloycies if they would learn to play the banjo, so that they could serenade her at night, in company with the coachman, who was learning the cornet.

Withal, Mrs. Wellman was enjoying life immensely, but it disturbed her soul to think that the chickens, horses, and dogs about the place were not faring as well as yie. They ought to have all the comforts of home, too, she decided: so she employed a force of carpenters and had stables put in the reading room, and a row of sanitary her was a preparation for entertaining the live stock in style. Her ideas expanded with the ald of two other men, hired for the

Elevated Road '94 Assessment Upheld. Justice Pryor handed down in the Supreme Court yesterday a decision upholding the assessment of 1894 of the Manhattan Elevated oad at \$16,406,000 for taxation. The Tax Commissioners originally fixed the assessment t \$30,000,000, but they reduced it on a second at \$30,000,000, but they reduced it on a second hearing to the above amount. The company obtained a writ of certiorart to review the final assessment, claiming that their taxable assets amounted to \$26,000,000, and from this amount was to be deducted \$37,000,000 for debts and \$15,000,000 of real catate. The property available for taxation would thus be less than nothing by \$20,000,000. Justice Pryor dismissed the writ of certiorart and upheld the assessment, which he said, was sustained by the testimony in the case.

A Dinner to Francis F. Browne, A complimentary dinner was tendered Mr Francis F. Browne, editor of the Chicago Dial, by his literary friends of New York at the Lotos Club last evening. Among those who extended their congratulations were the Rev. Robert Collyer, E. C. Stedman, W. D. Howella, Hamil-ton W. Mable, George Haven Putnam, and Dr. Albert Shaw. LIFE TOPICS ABOUT TOWN.

One of the musical journals has been agi tating the question of the large salaries paid by American managers to foreign singers, and now that several operatic organizations are likely to be in the field next season, a combina tion of managers is urged with the object of reducing extravagant rates of pay to something like reasonable figures. No such salaries are paid at Convent Garden in London, which outside of the principal Russian opers houses probably pays more to its performers than any other European operatio theatre. But ever there the pay is small compared to the price demanded by singers when they come to this country, and not a few of them sing there for

demanded by singers when they come to this country, and not a few of them sing there for nothing, or at a merely nominal rate, for the purpose of acquiring a reputation which will enable them to ask a high price in this country. Sir Ausustus Harris offered Mine. Nordica \$200 a night to sing with him last season, and as she was not in need of a London endorsement, the proposition was refused. Only the important artists receive liberal salaries, and the effect of the difference is very pianly noticeable in the lists of the artists employed here at the Metropolitan and engaged for the London season. A new phase of the question comes up in the case of the German singers, and astriking instance of this matter occurred in the case of Wilhelm Gruening, the tenor, who sang with Walter Damrosch's season. He took back with him \$24,000 as the reward of his season, and of this sum one half was paid to Pollini of Hamburg, of whose company the German tenor was a regular member.

As it was, the singer's reward undoubtedly exceeded anything he had ever received in his own country, and as he was the best singer available, his manager was compelled to accent Pollini's terms. Klafsky had the same difficulty when she came to this country, but rather than send half her carnings back to Pollini, she broke her contract with him, and probably the union of the German managers—called the Castel Verein—will prevent her from singing in Germany. Lilli Lehmann had the same experience, and she is able to sing only in Baireuth and Vienna, two of the opera houses exempt from the power of the Verein. This summer at Baireuth she is to be one of the prima donnas. Amalia Materna will probably be another. She received a letter from Mme. Cosima Wagner on Wednesday, asking her to sing the Brunnhildes at the festival alternately with Frau Lehmann. Since Materna sang at Baireuth five years ago she has not been on good terms with the administration of the festival, and the present invitation is regarded as a renewal of peaceable relations. The case of G

Some straw hats were to be seen down town yesterday, and they peeped like dandelions from among the mass of winter derbys. But the satisfaction of their wearers was not nearly so apparent as that of the women who appeared in the shopping districts on Monday in linen shirt waists. The putting off of winin linen shirt waists. The putting off of winter coats and jackets had exhibited a number
of women dressed in waists which had obviously seen a hard season's wear, and anticipated no such sudden exposure to the public
view on a sunny morning on Broadway. But
the pride of the women in their shirt, waisas
was apparent at a glance. They moved through
the crowds with a patronizing expression, as
though no sudden change of weather ever
found them unprepared. The shirt waist evidently made its permanent appearance on that
day, and it has increased in numbers, until,
along with the salior hat, it is already rampant up town. A cold spell may temporarily
cellipse these indications of summer, but there
will be no other occasion this year when the
women will have the proud distinction of being the first to appear on the streets in this
popular garment. popular garment.

The evident abatement in the interest which New Yorkers took in indoor bleyeling last winter led many people to predict that the enthusiasm would not be revived this spring when the weather permitted the resumption of the sport on the road. But the first mild Sunday proved the mistake of any such view. On Easter, when there was too much wind for ideal wheeling weather, the crowd on the Boulevard was large, and on last Sunday, when the conditions were entirely favorable, there was as large a throng as the Boulevard ever saw. In the afternoon the spectators were standing six and seven rows deep on the side-walks below Sixty-third street, and there was not a block on the Boulevard below 108th street but had its line of watchers along the curbstone. The rendezvous, as the space at the Boulevard and 108th street is called, was almost congested with riders who had halted at this popular spot to rest. The season is starting this year with more enthusiasm than ever, and the failure of the academies must have come from the lack of any need for education in the matter. But this year, as much as last spring, every-side street paved with asphalt boasts its patient learner struggling laboriously along in tow of some accommodating friend or relative. Boulevard was large, and on last Sunday, when

Women are achieving a constantly increasing measure of success as hotel keepers, although not very much has been printed about their invasion of this field of man's activity bigger boarding houses of Florida are kept by New England women. They began by keep-ing summer boarding houses or hotels in the White Mountains and other parts of New England, and went to Florida to find profitable occupation for the winter. Now they oscillate between New England in the summer and the South in the winter, taking most of their help with them. In this city several of the large family hotels owe their success to women who began business in boarding houses. In at least one case the wife of the proprietor is the real manager, though the husband is the member of the firm who is most in evidence. At a small but exceedingly well known summer resort fnear New York the three leading hotels are owned and managed by women. One of these women began with a small boarding house in this city. She has now a block of three big houses on a prominent street, and the summer hotel enterprise which she has just carried through herself represents an expenditure of more than \$125,000. The success of the New Englanders is due to their executive ability and capacity as housekeepers; but in the case of the New Yorkers, another element has had decisive importance. That element is taste, which is constantly exercised in the arrangement, furnishing, and decoration of rooms and parlors, and in giving them just the air that women like their home to have. Some men, architects, decorators, and others, can produce exceedingly elegant and beautiful effects, but few of them can bring about the homelike appearance which some gifted women seem to be able to give by a touch here and there. the South in the winter, taking most of their

The hollowness of Chicago's claims to be anything more than an overgrown village is shown by continual outcroppings of p ovinclalisms. Thus, a big Chicago man strode un to the box office of the Metropolitan Opera House the other day, flung down a ten-dollar bill, and shouted in a whole-souled, breezy

"Four orchestra seats?" He looked like a victim of a head on col-lision when informed that the seats would cost \$5 each, and that his ten-dollar bill would only half cover the expense. His jauntiness vari-shed. Only his breeziness remained and it threatened to develop into a cyclone of indig-

threatened to develop into a cyclone of indig-nation. "Why," he protested, "they only charge \$3 on first nights in Chicago."
The scale of opera prices may be absurdly high here; nevertheless the pride of New York-ers may find consolation at the expense of their pockets in the thought that it is only in the few foremeat, richest clies of the world that such rates are possible. Cities like Chi-cago, of a rank below the first, get an inferior article cheaper, and adhere to the old plan of paying more at first nights than at subsequent performances.

Walker Price's theft of the \$1,950 which he was carrying to his employers for their pay roll is one of those exceptions that prove the rule of the safety of the streets of New York and the honesty of its inhabitants. It also itlustrates the risks which some firms take week after week. There are probably some thousands of firms in this city whose weekly pay rolls amounts to from \$500 up to \$10,000 and more. It is the custom to send a clerk to the bank with a check for the amount required. Sometimes another clerk or a porter is sent along to act as a guard, but this precaution is often neglected, even when it is a woman who is the messenger, and she carries a couple of thousands of dollars in a satchel. These weekly trips to the bank are made so regularly that it would be easy for a thief to learn the route taken by the messenger and his habits; but such is the safety of New York streets that scarcely as attempt at such a robbery has been made shee excline Byrnes broke on the butcher vart sating of robbers years ago. The honesty of the clerks is even more romarkable. It is eciden that one is false to his trust, authough several thousand dollars in rash may thus be intrusted to a boy of eighteen or twenty with a salary of \$15 a week. About the only recent great defaication of the kind was committed when an employee of the Herald pocketed \$10,000 which he was sent to the bank to draw, and simply boarded a railway wash. rolls amounts to from \$500 up to \$10,000 and

SWINDLED MILLIONAIRES.

JOE KRAY SOLD W. H. VANDERBILT A SPURIOUS BOUGUEREAU.

Sald to Have Cleared \$40,000 by It-Sold Another Copy as an Original to Collis P. Huntington Lately Underwent the Degradation of Arrest for a Bunco Game. The arrest of the notorious "Paper Collar Jos" in this city last week for being concerned in a bunco game, of which Joel Hanford, a citizen of Ithaca, was the victim, has reminded a number of St. Paul, Minn., people of the days when Joe lived there. He was then known as Joseph Kray, a name he has since been known by, both in this city and abroad, and in 1890 be kept a saloon on Third street, near Jackson street, St. Paul. The place was the resort of fashionables, and Kray was one of the best dressed men in town. The fact that he had a passion for fine paintings and was a collector or a large scale may account for his being on such good terms with men who, had they known him as " Paper Collar Joe," would speedily have cut his acquaintance. All the time he was in St. Paul. however, Chief of Police O'Connor knew him, and it was only on the condition that he wouldn't work a swindle of any kind while he was in that city that he was permitted to run his saloon unmolested. Kray was true to his word while in St. Paul, and it was not until he gave up his saloon and went abroad that his history came out. As the Sun stated several days ago, Kray, o Bond, as he was known here, made a speciality

of dealing in spurious oil paintings. He knew the whereabouts of the famous paintings and who the owners were, and what history each great painting had. This knowledge made him a plausible talker on matters pertaining to art. That he swindled many persons by means of cooles of famous paintings which he passed off for the originals is well known, but that he numbered among his victims two such art collectors as the late William H. Vanderbilt and Collis P. Huntington is not generally known. It is true that he swindled both of these men, and there is a record of the swindles at Police Heanquarters in this city. Capt. O'Brien of the Detective Bureau told the story the other night. Twelve years ago Kray was conducting the bogus painting swindle on a large scale. His victims were nearly all Americans, but he did not seek them in this country. Instead he apont his time in the art markets of Paris. There he sought the acquaintance of rish tourists, and found out their weak spots. It was easy enough to secure introductions. In the Paristan art market Kray was known as an American millionaire in search of rare paintings, and no one who ever talked with him doubted his knowledge of things artistic, it was in Paris that Kray met Mr. Vanderbilt, who was there ransacking foreign art markets for gems for his Fith avenue mansion. Kray was toporty in great painting had. This knowledge made him edge of things artistle. It was in Paris that Kray met Mr. Vanderbilt, who was there ransacking foreign art markets for gems for his Fifth avenue mansion. Kray was properly introduced and made a good impression on Mr. Vanderbilt. His great acquaintance among foreign dealers and collectors served Mr. Vanderbilt in good stead, and when Kray said that ke knew of the whereabouts of several fine old paintings, that might be purchased at a moderate figure. Mr. Vanderbilt commissioned him to go ahead and buy them. Kray secured from a dealer several very fine paintings at a very low price. He sent them to Mr. Vanderbilt's hotel and Mr. Vanderbilt was delighted with them. He wanted to engage Kray to travel with him and help him select pictures from then on. But Kray said no; he couldn't spare the time, because he was negotiating for a famous Bouguereau which was then in the collection of a Russian Prince, and which he understood would be sold if a proper price was offered for it. Many collectors were after it, said Kray, and he was afraid to leave Paris for fear the chance of getting it would slip through his fingers. The picture was even then in Paris, and Kray said he, had an alvantage over other collectors because he knew vantage over other collectors because he knew just where it was. His only fear was that h hadn't enough money on hand to purchase it for the transaction would have to be strictly fo

hadn't enough money on hand to purchase it, for the transaction would have to be strictly for cash.

The game worked beautifully, Mr. Vanderbilt wanted the picture. He offered to pay any price asked, and to give Kray a liberal commission for negotiating the purchase. Kray declined the offer at first. He would never give up his hopes of obtaining the masterpiece, he said. Gradually, however, he let Mr. Vanderbilt talk him into giving it up, and one day he went to Mr. Vanderbilt, and then, as the story goes, told him that he could get the picture for \$40,000. Mr. Vanderbilt snapped at it, and the sale was consummated. The picture that Mr. Vanderbilt got was a magnificent reproduction of the original painting, and Kray had paid an artist \$500 to make it. That was the exact amount he got as commission from Mr. Vanderbilt, so that he cleared \$40,000 on the deal.

Mr. Vanderbilt shipped the picture home, and for two years it was supposed to be an original Bonguereau. The swindle was finally discovered, but Kray was not arrosted.

Mr. Vanderbit introduced Kray to Mr. Huntington, and in almost similar fashion Kray worked off a copy of a masterplece on Mr. Huntington, receiving for it \$17,000. This fraud was discovered at about the same time that the Vanderbilt painting was found out to be a copy, and Kray, while he was in so danger of prosecution, withdrew from sight for a time. Kray is free how, having been dismissed from custody on the charge of swindling Mr. Hanford. He may be seen on upper Broadway any afternoon, looking fat and healthy, although he is said to have spent all the money he has made in swindling operations.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

MINIATURE ALMANAC-THIS DAY. Sun rises ... 5 18 | Sun sets ... 6 42 | Moon sets ... 11 40

Arrived-THURSDAY, April 16. Arrived THURSDAY, April 16.
Se State of Nebraska, Brown, Glasgow,
Se Statigart, Koblenberk, Bremen,
Se Havel, Jungst, Bremen,
Se Pawnee, Alkenhead, Gibraltar,
Se Jersey City, Lewis, Bristol,
Se El Rio, Quick, New Cricans,
Se Comanche, Pennington, Jacksonvilla,
Se Kansas City, Fisher, Savannah,
Se Oid Dominion, Blaskeman, Norfolk,
Se Gen, Whitney, Bearse, Boston, [For later arrivals see First Page.]

ARRIVED OUT. Bs Glengyle, from New York, at Hong Kong.
Ss Britian King, from New York, at Antwerp,
ss Francisco, from New York, at Hull
ss Spres. From New York, at Southampton.
Ss Fuerst Bismarek, from New York, at Cherbourg.
Ss Patria, from New York, at London.
Ss Poinsular, from New York, at London.
Ss Peninsular, from New York, at London.
Ss El Norte, from New York, at New Orleans.

SIGHTED. Ss Guthiel, from New York for Flushing, passed Lewis Island. Ss Maasdam, from Rotterdam for New York, passed Isle of Wight. Ss Venetia, from New York for Copenhagen, passed bunnet Head. Ss Washington, from New York for Flushing, passed Dunnet Head.
Ss Washington, from New York for Flushing, passed
the Litzard.
Ss Edam, from New York for Rotterdam, passed the
Litzard. Pencroy, from New York for Hombay, passed

SAILED FROM FOREIGN PORTS.
SS Ems. from Genou for New York.
SS Creele Prince, from Bahla for New York.
SS Massachusetts, from London for New York.

SAILED FROM DOMESTIC PORTS. Ss El Sud, from Port Eads for New York. Ss William Woodward, from Baltimore for New York. Sa Iroquois, from Jacksonville for New York.

Sail Today. Mails (Poss. Fort William, Porto Rico. 2 :00 P. M. keminole. Charleston.... Lio Grande, Bruntwick. Mohawk, Landon Seguranca, Hayana Alleghary, Kingston Comanche, Charleston Louistana, New Orleans Concho, Galveston Excelstor, New Orleans Sail Monday, April 20, Allianea, Colon. INCOMING STEAMSHIPS. St. Lucia Due Saturday, April 18. Britannia . Ningara Fontabelle, Trinidad City of Augusta Due Sunday, April 19.

Antwerp.

Mobile Westernland

Luckerbocker.

Liandaff City.

OPERTIONS OF THE DAY

The King of Servin and American Retr.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIF: Permit me to say a few words in defence of a very estimable young man.

I have seen during the last few days in sev eral American papers a statement that, falling to find a wife in Europe, the King of Servia may turn to the western hemisphere in search companion and helpmate for life. In several instances the statement has been commented on in sneering terms and with reflec tions on the moral character of the vonne King on the score of his parentage. Like other mortals, King Alexander I. is not responsible for that, and shough there may be something in the doctrine of heredity, it is hardly fair to condemn a man on that account before he has had time to show the world what he is himself. It is true that his father, King Milan, was not a father to be proud of, but it is unfair to cast a slur on the King's mother, Queen Nathalle, who, if she does possess a strong temper, has also high qualities and has lived an irreproachable moral life. So far from being an undestrable alliance for any young woman, royal or plebelan, rich or

poor, it would be well if mothers could always secure for their daughters' husbands young men of King Alexander's qualities. With all the difficulties surrounding his early years, the King of Servia is a young man of high character. Thanks to a kind of fevuision in the mind of his father when he contemplated his own career, Frince Alexander was not sent to any of the European capitals to fall a prey to the evil examples he would have been sure to have had presented to him, but was placed under the tutelage of the late Mr. Dokitch, a man of wioning character and conscious of nis responsibility to his country in the faithful discharge of his trust. The result has shown itself in the admirable manner in which the young King has comported himself since his accession to the throne of Servia.

If he has committed political faults, they have been attributable to natural inexperience and also to his strong flial reverence for his parents amid all the scandals attending them in later events. Warned by the example of his father, he has forsworn cards and gambling and he schews the use of tobacco. Lastiy, he is a young fellow of splendid physique. If through State exigencies or for other reasons he cannot find a suitable wife in Europe, a wealthy and beautiful American girl may make a very much worse match than if she became the wife of King Alexander I, and Queen of Servia.

New York, April 14. King of Servia is a young man of high charac

McDermott Not a Duryce Zonave,

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT! In YOUR ournal of Sunday, 12th inst., there appeared an account of the funeral at the Blackwell's Island almshouse of John McDermott, member of Duryea's Zouaves." In behalf of the member of Duryea's Zouaves." In behalf of the survivors of the Fifth New York Volunteer Infantry, Duryee Zouaves, permit me to say that John McDermott never served in that regiment. The regiment he served in was known as the Fifth New York Veteran Volunteers, and was mustered into the United States service in the latter part of 1803 or the fore part of 1804. The Duryee Zouaves were mustered in in May, 1801, and were mustered out in May, 1801, and were mustered out in May, 1808. Secretary Fifth New York Volunteers Veteran Association.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUS-Sir: In a current periodical I read, "In conclusion Mr. (Elbert) Hubbard declares that if Stephen Crane never produces another thing, he has done enough to save the fag end of the century from disgrace; 'and look you, friends,

be exclaims, 'that is no small matter.' Mr. Hubbard is right; It is no small matter to say t. Every century since the fourteenth has been simi larly saved, and it would have been a great pity if no one had done the trick for us. Chaucer saved the fagend of the fouriernt century and Shakespeare that of the sixtsenth. The fagend of the fitteenth century was not saved by an one, for it was in no danger of disgrace. England baving no pectilings at that time or prosters either. Pope saved the seventeenth century, or came pretty near it, and Wordsworth just managed to slip in his good work before the end of the eighteenth. For five years now every one has been wondering who was going to save the nineteenth century from the disgrace which Tennyson and firowning heaped on it by dying and various other writers by living. But now Mr. Crane has done it. If he reality posaesses the true humanity which his critic ascribes to him he will employ a part of the leisure which must ensue after saving from disgrace the fire which must ensue after saving from disgrace the gend of a century in trying to save Mr. Husbard. Let us hope he will strive to this end, and so be able to sympathize with that Illack Rider of his, who was bent on eatching the horizon.

E. H., Jr. arly saved, and it would have been a great pity if n

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Seeing an article in your issue of the lith inst. about Jews being barred from the National Guard, I would like to tell people through your columns that it is open to all.

What I know about Jews as soldiers, viz.: During

the war I belonged to a regiment in the same brigad In which was another regiment said to be composed of Jews, which was wrong, and, as I was informed, contained three companies of other nationalities, but all were American, however, the majority was the nucleus of one of the hydrecentry that the nucleus of one of the sprane from the old Sixth militia, which I link was called the 'sovernor's Quard, which I link was called the 'sovernor's Quard, which I link was called the 'sovernor's Quard, and the state of the second of the in which was another regiment said to be composed

we ask tach their freed "Semite" is, not to humble then gladly.

My advice to our friend "Semite" is, not to humble himself to what he terms "crack" regiments.

HERRY WARD,

Late President (not a Jew), Veteran Corps, Sixtyninth Regiment, Jersey City.

78 ASTOR PLACE.

Capt. O'Brien's Moral Victory.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: In the debate of the District of Columbia Appropriation bill, be fore the House April 9, Mr. Fitzgerald of Massa-chusetts alluding to the "first great naval vic-tory off the coast of Maine," says that it was achieved

tory off the coast of Maine," says that it was achieved by Capt. John O'lirien, and that he was a Roman Catholic.

Capt. Jeremiah O'lirien was in command and Gideon, John, and William, his brothers, were with him. A work of the was the command and Gideon, John, and William, his brothers, were with him. A work o'lirien, with his coast of the work of the was a work of the work

Site of the Sixty-ninth's Armory.

To the Editor of The Sus-Sir: Mr. Sidney Flaher, who objects to my remarks in The Sus of April 8 on the subject of the Sixty ninth Regiment Armory, appears to be poorly informed about the locality of which he writes.

I said that the chief objection to an armory on the

present site of the College of the City of New York was due to the fact that it was to be utilized (and will be utilized, I may add) for the Irish-American regi-ment, the Sixty-ninth. The property owners of that vicinity, who met in the Twenty-third Street Baptist Church to protest against an armory for the Sixty-ninth on that site, oppose it, as I said, because it is an Irish regiment, and not because of extra care for, or solicitude about, the character of the neighborhood. Your correspondent, Mr. Pisher, who signs himself "One of the protestants" ("protestants" against an armory for the Sixty ainth Regiment, is a resident, I "One of the protestants" ("protestants" against an armory for the Sixty ainth Resiment, is a resident, I am informed, of Brooklyn, and he, in perfect good faith, may bring the nettons of Actionough street to the consideration of public questions in the city of New York. We have enough retrograde and backing the control of the Sixty of the control of the Sixty of the protest of the control of the Sixty of the public limits of the Sixty of the public limits of the Sixty of the Sixty

To the Entrop of The Sex Sir: "A Western Girl" funidentified, in The Sex of April 12, is almost identical with an old poem I have entitled "To a Southern Girl," written by James G. Burnett, only it is twisted around and "Southern" is replaced by "Western I I do not mink James G. Burnett, if the gentleman is alive, and should read "A Western Girl," would flud much difficulty in identifying the poem. Your truly, S. Earneoux.

Henry Covert, an evangelist, disappeared from

his home, at 550 McDonough street, Brooklyn, early three weeks ago. He left a letter telling April 14 his wife that his love for her was dead. Mrs. April 15 Helen Springer, a widow living just round the corner from the Coverts, left home at about the same time, estensibly for Los Angeles. Covert April 2 and he was going to Chicago. He and Mrs. April 14 Enringer were friends.

OLD MAN WERR'S HOUSEKEEPER

She Brings Up Gen. Tracy's Age-Mrs. Mrs. Jessie Belknap Ranken was the principal witness yesterday at the trial of her suit for a small slice of the estate of the late millionaire shipbuilder, Eckford Webb, in the Supreme Court in Brooklyn, Gen. B. F. Tracy, who conducted the cross-examination, asked her if she knew a man named Graham, and she re-

plied that she did, 'Who is he?" Gen. Tracy asked. " He is an old gentleman about your age, Gen.

Tracy," the witness replied. "I'm not old," Gen. Tracy remarked; "you

"I'm not old," Gen. Tracy remarked; "you mean a young gentleman about my age."

"I beg your pardon," said the witness, "I mean an old gentleman about your age."

"Does he look like me "' Gen. Tracy asked.

"Something like you," was the snawer.

"Are there two Grahams?"

"Yes: I know another gentleman named Archibald Craham. He is bald."

"I mean," said Gen. Tracy, "a Graham who is known as "Pickies."

"Oh, really," replied Mrs. Ranken, "really, I don't know any Graham of that name."

"Did your husband ever take your marriage certificate to Graham to avoid a scandal?"

"I never knew that he did."

Mrs. Ranken denied that the trouble which occurred between her and her husband, after Mr. Webb's death, was caused through her husband's displeasure and Graham's attentions to her.

to her.

Mrs. Cora J. Hail of 26 West Thirty-fourth street was another witness for the plaintiff. When asked by Gen. Tracy if she smoked cigarettes, she replied:

"After meals I take a few puffs of a cigarette, and I am not ashamed of it either."

The trial will be continued to-day.

Espraim Hows Left Tofts College \$40,000. Ephraim Howe, whose death was recently an-counced, made the following bequests in his will: To St. Lawrence's University, for a scholarship, \$1,000; Clinton Liberal Institute, \$10,000; Chapin Home for the Aged and Infirm, \$5,000; Tufts College, for a new building, to be known as the Howe Memorial, \$40,000.

Buginess Rotices.

Mrs. Winstow's Scothing Syrup for children teething softens the gums, reduces inflammation, al-lays pain, cures wind colle, diarrhess. 25c. a bottle

MARRIED.

DENCH-WARREN,-On Wednesday, April 18, 1896, at Froh-Heim, Far Hills, N. J., the country residence of Mr. Grant B. Schley, by the Rev. Henry Evertson Cobb. Bess Gladys Warren to William Lester Bench of Brooklyn, N. Y. VAN SCHAICK-WOOD,-On Wednesday,April

15, 1896, at the Church of the Holy Comm by the Rev. Dr. Mattel, Ida, daughter of the late James R. Wood, M. D., to Singleton Van Schalek.

DIED.

ARMAN.—On Thursday, April 16, at his residence, 3 Poplar st., Brooklyn, Thomas D. Carman, aged 87 years.

Notice of funeral will be given bereafter. DENNIS.—At her residence, 280 West 73d st., New York, on Wednesday, the 15th inst., Mrs. Page Cooper Dennis, widow of Edward Dennis of this city and daughter of the late Admiral George H.

Funeral services at her late residence on Friday evening, 17th, at 8:80 o'clock. Norfolk, Va.,

papers please copy.

FOX.—On Thursday, April 16. 1896, of pneumonia,
Patrick Fox, son of the late Terence and Catharine
Fox, in the 46th year of his age.
Relatives and friends are invited to attand the
funeral from his late residence, 1.894 Columbus
av., corner of 124th st., on Saturday, April 18, as 10 A. M.: thence to St. Joseph's Church, West 195th st., where a solemn requiem mass will be celebrated at 10:80 A. M. Interment Calvary Come-

MATTHEWS, -On Wednesday, April 18, at his 75th year of his age.

Funeral services at Grace Church, Grace court and Hicks st., Friday, April 17, at 2 P. M. Kindly omis flowers. NICHOLSON.—Suddenly, on Wednesday, April 15,

Elira, wife of Robert Nicholson, in her 75th year, Funeral services Saturday, 8 P. M. Relatives and friends invited to attend, at her late residence, 877 ATTERSON, -At Pau, France, April 18, Lieut.

Thomas C. Patterson, First Artillery, U. S. A., re-cently retired, son of the late Alexander W. Patterson of New York City. WAN,-On Thursday, April 16, 1898, Bessie, wife of Robert D. Swan.
Funeral services at her late home, 182 Vernos av.,

Brooklyn, on Friday evening, April 17, at 8 o'clock Interment on Saturday morning, at Greenwood, TREETER.—Entered into rest, April 18, 1896, as her residence, 2,308 7th av. Nancy M., wife of Noves Streeter, Jr. Funeral private. Kindly omit flowers

Funeral private. Kindly omit nowers.
UNIPERHILLI.—At Locust Valley. Long Island,
Tuesday, April 14, Ann Elizabeth, widow of George
R. Underhill, in the 86th year of hor age.
Funeral services will be held Friday, as her late
residence, on arrival of the 11 o'clock train from Long Island City.

VOORHIIS, - Suddenly, in Jersey City, Wednesday,
April 15, 1806, in his 64th year, Ex-Judge Charles

Funeral from his residence, 114 Clifton place, Jersey City, Friday, April 17, at 1:30 P. M. WILLIAMS,—Richard S. Williams, on Wednes

Funeral from his late residence, 115 West 49d st., on Sunday, April 19, at 2:30 P. M.

A -WOODLAWN CEMETERY, OFFICE, 30 EAST 25D ST, WOODLAWN STATION, SATH WARD, HARLEM BAILBOAD,

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